

A 10. *Jan 1775*
REFUTATION
OF THE
1775. 6. 31
3.
Short Answer
TO THE
EXAMINATION
OF
Dr. PITCAIRN'S
Dissertations.

a. 3969.

C. C. P. A. C.
Absentem qui rodit amicum ;
Qui non defendit alio culpante : solutos
Qui captat risus hominum, famamq; dicacis:
Ingere qui non visa potest : commissa tacere
Qui nequit: hic niger est; hunc tu Romane caveo
Horat.

EDINBURGH,
Printed in the Year M. D. CCL.



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A REFUTATION

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The Short Answer, &c.

H Ad not the Author of the Discourse, *De salute quam ferunt ægrotantibus dissertationes* Archibaldi Pitcarnii, entirely undervalued the scurrilous, disingenuous, & weak Answer made to it, I should not have meddled in the Affair, or have offered to make any Reply to a Paper, the Authors whereof deserve a much rougher one than well can appear in Print, or rather to be lash't with something they'd better feel than the Strokes of a Pen. The impudent Assertions, unmannerly and unjust Reflections on the Author of the Discourse, the sul-

some and ill-placed Flattery of the
 Champion, under whose Direction
 and for whose sake it was written, can
 sufficiently refute the Answer to an
 Man of Candor and Judgement. No
 ther do I pretend, that this Reply will
 be of much use to such as do in the least
 understand the Debate, seeing the bare
 comparing the two Papers together
 will be a sufficient Conviction to them
 how far the last comes short of its
 Title: My design is only to Vindicate
 my Friend from these unjust Imputa-
 tions thrown upon him by this Malici-
 ous Club, and discuss the frivolous
 Answers contained in it, which per-
 haps might bear some Weight with
 those that do not see far into the Affairs

The first thing that is laid to the
 Author's charge, is, *That he wrote his*
Discourse in Latin, to amuse some good
meaning People, who neither thoroughly
understand the Language, nor Subject
on purpose to wound D. P. secretly, and
wheel him into Employment. Now
 if I say quite the contrary, that it was
 written in Latin, because D. P.'s Dis-
 sertation

of the Citations were so, and to take off an
 en, avidious Objection, That the Dissertator
 o an had exposed D. P. in Print on
 No purpose to lessen his Reputation a-
 y among the Vulgar; I'm sure, I say it
 e less on better Grounds than what they do.
 e band, if I affirm that the Answer is
 ethe written in *English*, because they could
 then not do it in *Latin*, and with a design
 of to defame the Dissertator among the
 ndic ignorant, who do not understand his
 nput discourse, and consequently cannot
 s Mr Judges in the Debate, but as the An-
 volowers imagine, will readily believe
 n pe that they see impudently asserted;
 with think, I am so far in the Right, that
 Affair every impartial Man must think so
 to the; So unfair is even their first Re-
 ot mark.

e ge Then we are told, *It is written in a*
 ough off, *unequal, and Pedantick Stile*, and
 bject is made out only by a *Dixit*: It
 , an seems tho' their Patron, whose com-
 Now surs in Verse and Prose do so far sur-
 t wa ss these of other Men, and whom
 Dney cannot well decline for a Judge,
 tion d another Opinion of it, when by

a groundless Allegiance he fathered the Language on one who is unquestionably as well the ablest Critick as the greatest Master of both the learned Languages this Nation can boast of. I do confess, The Author of the Discourse did endeavour to imitate the most correct ways of speaking, and in a dead Language did not think it safe to venture much on New ones of his own, which is all I can find is meant by *Pedantick*, and which for the same Reason, may be charged on all the great Men that have written in *Latin* since the decay of that Language and which by some ignorant Criticks has been said, even of our incomparable *Buchanan*, who has so strictly imitated the Stile of these that lived in the best Age. As for the Author's picking of Phrases, and jumbling them together without Judgement, you may see how well this is made out by the only instance given, *Congerrone* say they, is always taken in a bad Sense, and *omnium horarum homines* used in a very good meaning, and there

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therefore cannot be joyned together.
In Answer to this, the Author of the
Discourse was far from designing to
speak ill of all these by whom D. P. has
got his Reputation, he knew part good
and part bad, and suppose he had
meant no other way than the Answer-
ers explain it, I think the Expression
neither Indecent nor Absurd. But this
Remark shews what learned Criticks
they are, for the Word *Congerro* doth
very properly signifie a *Collusor qui
easdem exercet nugas*, as *Taubmannus*
explains it in his Commentary on *Plau-
tus*, *He that converses much after ones
own way*. Neither is *omnium horarum
homines* or *Amici* always taken in a
very good meaning, but by those of
the same stamp. *Sueton*, in the Life
of *Tiberius* Cap. 42. tells us, *In castris
tiro etiam tum propter nimiam vini avi-
ditatem Biberius; pro Claudio, Caldus;
pro Nerone, Mero vocabatur. Postea
princeps in ipsa publicorum morum cor-
rectione cum Pomponio Flacco & L. Pisone
noctem continuumque biduum epulando
potandoque consumpsit: Quorum alteri
Syriam*

Syriam provinciam, alteri praefecturam
urbis confestim detulit, codicillis quoq. ju-
cundissimos & omnium horarum amicos
professus. Tiberius, whilst yet a Novice,
 and in the Camp for his Drunkenness,
 was called *Biberius*; for *Claudius*, Cal-
dus; and for *Nero*, *Mero*; afterwards
 when Emperor, he spent a Night and
 two Days on end in Feasting and
 Drinking with *Pomponius Flaccus* and
L. Piso, to the one of which immedi-
 atly he gave the Government of *Syria*,
 and to the other the Prefecture of the
 City, and by Letters Patent declared
 them, *Jucundissimos & omnium horarum*
amicas, his most pleasant Companions
 and condescending Friends that never
 baulk't him. Nor can I put that Sen-
 tence of the Author's, they so severe-
 ly censure in better *English* than that
 it was not his design to diminish any
 thing of the Name *D. P.* had got a-
 mongst these of his own Club & boon
 Companions of the Town, which is
 neither Nonsense nor Improper. And
 if there be any Unequality of the Style,
 that must be imputed to the different
 Subjects

Subjects treated of, and the different way of handling them, which was Unavoidable.

That silly Ribaldry and Nonsense, are the main things the Discourse is stuff'd with; we find next asserted by the Answerers, and equally made out with the faults of the Stile, to wit, by the bare Assertion of Two Three little Pedants, that think it their Honour, to be reckoned the Companions of so great a Man, and are content to pick up his Crumbs, hand about his Wit-ty Sayings, harmless Stories, and innocent Jests, and sound his well got Reputation to all they come in Company with. The Author of the Discourse, did indeed give a little Character of *D. P.* in the first Paragraph, which did more describe his Temper and Humor, than attack either his Learning or Honesty; he tells us, he makes no question, that a Hot Pallionate Man will highly Resent the taking to Task his Works, one who spares no Man, that in the least differs from him in Opinion, and who.

when

when he has a mind to be Merry, will sooner venture to lose his Friend than his Jest. This is all they can call Ribaldry, and every body that knows how open he lay to much deeper Censures, will be of Opinion, that the Dissertator, as they call my Friend, treated him with a great deal of Modesty and good Nature. If he had given him that Character which *Horace* gives of one, whom he desires his Countrey men by all means to avoid, I mean that Printed in the Title Page. *Absentem qui rodit Amicum, &c.* One who traduceth his absent Friend, nor has the Courage to defend him against the Calumny of another, one whose chief business is, to make People laugh in Company, and to be reputed a Satyrical Jester, who can tell a Falschhood with the same assurance, as if he had seen it, nor ever could contain a Secret entrusted to him. Such a one says the Poet, is the dangerous Man, whom I advise all my Friends to be aware of: Or, as it is Translated by a most ingenious Gentleman

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man and Generous Friend one whose
 Character is the very reverse of that
 black one, & who Himself is a sufficient
 Proof, that a Man of true Wit, can
 enliven Conversation and make a
 Company merry without being at the
 Expense of his Friend's Good Name
*He that shall blame his absent Friend,
 Nor dares his injur'd Fame defend,
 Who in his jesting Talent's proud
 To amuse the dull unthinking Croud
 With Impudence avers damn'd Lies
 As he had seen them with his Eyes,
 Can keep no Secret on his Tongue,
 This is the Knave we ought to shun.*

Had, I say, the Dillertator fix't that
 severe Character on their Patron,
 they could not have return'd it with
 more Scurrilities, than they have done
 that Modest one he gave, and more
 Good Natured a great deal, than he
 deserved at my Friends hand; which
 leads me to talk of the Ingratitude he
 is so heavily taxed with by the An-
 swerers.

Ingratitude, I own is a Crime, that
 looks with the most brutal and loath-
 some aspect, it is in effect all Vices
 sum'd

sum'd up in one single word, and were this Charge sufficiently made out against my Friend, I should scarcely have ventured on his Vindication: But, I am too well acquainted with the History of these Two Gentlemen, not to know the Falsehood of the Aspersion; and that the Ingratitude lyes quite the other way. My Friend does confess, that in his more youthful Studies, he had a high esteem of these things *D. P.* is mostly valued on, such as are the Subject of his Dissertations, and on that account, was not only fond of his Company, but before he entered into Employment, or had the Title to it, recommended the Doctor to all these he had any weight or concern with; this was back'd with all the good Offices lay in his power, to get him into that Chair which now covers his Infirmities, and which to his own and his Countrey's lasting disgrace he so shamefully abandoned. The Letters he wrote in his favours, to that Renowned Botanist *Dr. Herman*, Rector of

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of the University of *Leyden* at the time, and the Author's particular Friend, which gave him at least no less Character, than he deserved, and the Services he continued to do him when he returned to *Leyden*, were not altogether useless. Tho in effect he owed his call to the means of a great Man in this Kingdom then alive, whose Recommendation could have gone a far greater length in *Holland*, then the making of a Professor of Physick; and to the circumstances of the University at the time. No sooner did the Dr. return to this place, but he look't on the growing Reputation of the Author of the Discourse, with an Eye of Jealousie and Malice; whatever good was spoken of him, he thought was detracting so much from himself, and what Employment the other got, he reckoned so much taken out of his Pocket: So that under the outward appearance and show of Friendship, he violated all the Bonds thereof, and if ever the Dissertator owed him any returns of kindness, has

has abundantly cancelled all by a long
 tract of the worst Offices, that Inso-
 lence, Malice, and self Interest, ever
 could have inspired a Mortal with.
 And to conclude, Employed his Bul-
 ly under pay, I mean the Author of
 the *New Theory of Fevers*, to write
 contemptibly of my Friend in the
 Second Edition of that smooth Peice:
 Which if he should deny, at least he
 cannot disown his being privy to it
 before that work was published, and
 the allowing it to be done; which
 I think sufficient Provocation to any
 Man that is tender of his Reputation:
 So all they can say is, that the Author
 of the Discourse was not so foolish, as
 to run at the stone, but the hand that
 flung it: Which I give, in Answer to
 that great Accusation, of his being
 the first Aggressor. After all this, my
 Friend did not think himself obliged
 to conceal his Sentiments of D. P's
 Dissertations, which by the Smatter-
 ers in Physick, were so mightily ex-
 toll'd to his advantage: And besides,
 was sorry to see the study of Physick
 dwin-

a long windle to that of a piece of Abstract
 Infomation, Geometry, and every little Pedant
 ever that could talk of a Curve, a Quadra-
 with, or a Series, and pretend to the
 s Bul- understanding a little of *Borelli* and
 or of *Cellini*, set up for a Physician, and
 write without either time or Education suffi-
 in the cient to qualifie him for so weighty
 Peice: an Employment, speak Saucily and
 ft he Magisterially of the Matter, and Vili-
 to it such Endowments as are most re-
 , and quired in an accomplish'd practiser.
 which in the mean time, my Friend is far
 o any from contemning that Study of the
 ation: Animal Oeconomy and Mechanism
 uthor of the Body. He acknowledges it to
 sh, as be one of the most divertising and use-
 d that ful parts of the Mechanical Philoso-
 ver to phy, and doth admire that Men of
 being Learning should not as soon study that
 s, my as Astronomy, Geography, Navigati-
 oliged on, Staticks, &c. and the other parts of
 . P's. Mathematical Learning, among which
 atter- he reckons this one, but infinitely more
 ly ex- useful for the improvement of the
 sides, known. Mechanical Powers or Ma-
 nyfick chines, and the Invention of new ones,
 dwin- than

than for the Curing Diseases which does depend on a Million of other things more necessary to be known, than such an accurat knowledge of the Animal Oeconomy, as these little Pretenders would be at, and is of Opinion, that the knowing how Animals walk, fly, swim, jump, run &c. doth as little contribute to the Cure of a Fever, Dropsy, Scurvy, &c. as the Knowing the Phases of Venus, or the *Phænomena* of the Planets, or *Bourbon* to the bringing a Ship to her Port: which I give for one General Reply to the many impertinent and abusive Questions about the secrets of Nature, and whether it is of any avail to know Truth from Falschood. *Borell* deserved all the applauses ever were given him as a Learned Mathematician, but none ever pretended to call him a Physician, tho he had more distinctly and fully explained that part of the Physiology, relating to the Animal Oeconomy, than any Mathematician either before or since his time.

I go on now to the particular Answers made to the Dissertation, which shall be short, what I have already said, being a Reply to most of them. The Author of that Discourse had made a very Modest Insinuation, that D. P.'s Inventions were rather of the growth of *Italy*, than either of *Scotland* or *Holland*, and I do think he has sufficiently made out, that there is scarcely any thing worth explaining taught by the Doctor, that has not been more clearly and distinctly done by *Borelli* and *Bellini*, so little to the purpose is that impertinent instance of Dr. Gregory, who, say the Answerers, might have been as well reckoned to have stolen his *Opticks* and *Astronomy* from *Euclide*, because he cites his *Elements*.

The Author of the Discourse had owned that D. P. had quite defeated the Doctrine of different Ferments and Pores, and consequently put out of Doors the Unintelligible Jargon of some Authors, tho' in the meantime he did not judge, that these Opinions had any influence on the practise

of Physick, no more than the false Hypotheses of *Ptolemy* and *Tycho Brahe* had on the Art of Navigation. This is Refuted by asserting the Contrary, only he tells us of some of the Authors acquaintances that stuff their Bills with Specificks to correct or restore the Ferment of the Stomach, which I warrand is a witty *Innuendo* against some one or other, this Club is not satisfied with, who I don't question, found their Practice on as solid and good Grounds, at least as their mighty Champion himself does.

D. P's second Dissertation contains the Solution of Dr. *Harvey's* Problem, which the Author of the Discourse had so far demonstrated to be taken from *Thurston* and *Borelli*, that he sets down from *Borelli* the Solution of it in plainer Language than the Doctor does, and precisely to the same purpose. And for these words of *Borelli* inserted by the Answerers, they relate very little to the purpose; what *Borelli* says, by them is only, that in the Birth the Intercostal Muscles and Diaphragm do contract themselves, which cannot

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not be done but the Cavity of the
 Breast must be augmented, and there-
 fore the Ambient Air rush in and dis-
 tend the Wind-pipes, and little Blad-
 ders of the Lungs. Now the Air is
 not forced in by the extension of the
 Ribs, or out of fear of a void, it rushes
 in by its own Elasticity or Springi-
 ness. nor doth *Borelli* any where say
 the contrary, only by this the Answ-
 ers had occasion to speak scurvily
 of *Des Cartes*, which is now turned
 so modish amongst the *Beaux Esprits*.
 Here they catch hold of another quib-
 ble about a Physical and Final cause,
 where it is plain the Dissertator mean't
 no other by the Physical but the Me-
 chanical cause, and not that intime
 Physical cause Mr. *Newton* speaks of
 which is so impertinently brought in,
 but this was to show, how deep they
 are in that great Man's Doctrine.
 The use and end of Respiration is the
 only thing *D. P.* differs from *Borelli*
 in, which has nothing to do with, *Har-*
vey's Problem, tho unluckily *Borelli*
 had inscrib'd that Proposition as he
 should

should have done, the one immediately preceeding, which made the Author of the Discourse very justly say that *D. P.* had no other way solved that Problem than *Thurston* and *Borelli* had done before him, tho in the meantime he pretended to refute their Opinion. This is all I can find is answered to the Criticism of the Second Dissertation, only they bring in by Head & Ears the *Apollo Mathematicus*, & assure us, there must be a great deal of the Discourse taken from it, notwithstanding these two papers are so very different, that the first proves all *D. P.*'s Dissertations to be false, and the Second, that most of them are entirely taken from others (not by deduction and consequences, as the Answerers would have it;) that none of them were of any use in the practice of Physick, and that in several things he had been mistaken

If the Author of the discourse had not by the bye spoken of old *Erasistratus*, the Answerers had been sadly put to it, for something to say to

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his Examination of the Third Differ-
 e Au ration concerning the Nutrition of
 y say the Animal, and manner of Digestion.
 Solved He had set down in plainer words
 Borelli than D. P. had done the same Do-
 mean ctine from *Borelli*; so it was not
 Opi from a short Sentence of *Celsus*, tel-
 lered ling the Opinion of *Erasistratus*, the
 Differ- Dr. made out so many Sheets, all he
 ead & did was only to put in a more Myste-
 assure rious, or as they call it, Mathemati-
 of the cal Dress, the plain Doctrine of that
 stand Italian Author, to which I find no
 very Answer made; only there is an
 es all Expostulation, which in this Ela-
 and borat Peice, is frequently done, and
 n are what the Authors of it think extrem-
 ot by ly pretty: *Why?* say they, *bath Bo-*
 s the *relli calculated the Vires of the Stomach,*
 none *Diaphragm, or Musculi abdominis, which*
 the *D. P. hath done very exactly in a Ma-*
 seve- *thematical manner?* No indeed *Borelli*
 e had did not think that needfull, for it was
Erasr easy for any Man to do that, by the
 sad- Method he had shown in calculating
 ay to the force of other Muscles of the Bo-
 his dy, by weighing the Muscles and
 com-

(22)
common Arithmetick, which is all
D. P. has done.

My Friend examining that same
Dissertation, had taken notice that
the Dr. did not reckon any Liquid
or Drink necessary for the work of
Digestion, and this he plainly made
out by his own words, which in *En-
glish* are as follows. *Hence it is ma-
nifest, that this is the most easy and
simple way of solving the Question in
hand, because by it the solid Meat may
easily Digest in the Stomach without the
influx of any Liquid, &c.* All the An-
swer to this is, another Sentence of
the same Dissertation, wherein he
tells us, *That he has no Mind to talk a-
bout the Faculty or use of the Spittle in
Digestion, as being a thing of no value,*
which I think is a confirmation of the
former Sentence; tho if it should be
against it, the Author is not obliged
to reconcile his Contradictions.

The only Remark, say the An-
swerers, the Author of the Discourse
makes on the *Problema de Inventori-
bus*, is that none but a mad Man
would

would think the Circulation of the blood was known to *Hippocrates*. I do here indeed confess my Friend was so far in the wrong, for he could have made abundantly more, but that he reckoned too invidious & Extrinsick to the business of Medicine. Neither do I think it of any good use to the publick to translate these Maxims he sets down to know the certainty of History, the Credit whereof is entirely founded on the Authority of the Writer, nor the consequences he draws from them; it is sufficient I let him and his Friends know how far my good Natures goes also; and how easily I could make a Charge against him, which his Friends would have difficulty to Answer.

D. P's next Dissertation tells us in a Bombastick & Flanting Stile, how far we are obliged to him for deriving our *Origine* from GOD Almighty, because no Animal could ever be produced Mechanically, and that it is a preexistent Animal drop't from the Male into the Egg. The Author of
the

the Discourse confutes this by the production of Animals of an inferior Rank, to wit, that of Plants which have no difference of Sex, and the Seed whereof is an Egg with it's whole *apparatus* contained in the Plant. This way of reasoning is most satisfying to all Naturalists who know the Uniformity of the works of Nature, and the Analogy of all Productions of the same sort, and which the Answerers cannot disown, only, say they, the Male must be the Plant, seeing the Earth is the Mother, so that the Seed must be the drop't Animal; which is quite contrary to the Observations of *Malpighius*, who had observed the Seed of a Plant to be a perfect Egg, with its whole *apparatus*, containing the Stamina and Lineaments of the future Plant, the same way he had done these of a Chicken in a wind Egg. And it is most certain, that the Earth gives it only Nourishment after the Vivification and Fecundating of the Seed whatever way that be done. But I confess, the Answerers seem much en-

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clined to wave this, and tell us the Dr. is not concerned in such trifles, which in the mean time, do every whit as much concern the practice of Physick, as any thing he has demonstrated.

The Explication of Sleep and Lethargick Diseases, is one of the mighty things D. P. is valued on, and that excellent Corollary, as they call it, mentioned by the Dissertator and Answerers, is one of the Dr's. topping Inventions; only there is a considerable Victory gained over my Friend, for his mistaking its Name, and calling it a *Lemma*, as if forsooth one that had gone no farther than the first Definitions of Euclide, should not know the one from the other; he called it so on purpose, because that Corollary ought rather to have been the Proposition it self, and the Demonstration which is premised, subjoyned to it, which made it a preparatory one, or *Lemma*, for his way of explaining Natural Sleep, and sleepy Diseases, which he certainly reckoned

were

were owing to the same Cause, (the
 the Answerers deny it) from the follow-
 ing words Pag. 107. *And because the*
Nature of this Disease cannot be explain-
ed without first declaring the manner
and way, or Reason of Sleep, let us hear
 &c. From which it is evident, the Dr
 thought they did so much proceed
 from one Cause, that the one could
 not be explained without the other
 but I do excuse them for it, because
 it was impossible to discuss the Ob-
 jections against his Doctrine about
 the cause of Sleep, contained in the
 Examinatory Dissertation, in which
 the Author had given a very simple
 and easie Explanation of Sleep, he
 called it an unbending of the Fibres of
 these Muscles that have a continual
 struggle with their Opposit ones, and
 are all such that serve for voluntary
 Motions, and which are bent while
 the Animal is awake; and by this he
 gave a most Rational Account, why
 an Animal had so great a Propensity
 to sleep after weariness, and a Repair
 taken, which was utterly inexplicable

D. P.

Dr P's way. I find no Answer to all
 this but the common one, by calling
 it horrid Nonsense, tho' in the mean
 time they tell us, it is stolen from
Willis and *La Forge*, or rather *Des*
Cartes, whom again they have occa-
 sion to give Names to. The first is
 made out, because, if you'll take their
 word for it, in sleep, the opposite
 Muscles of a Finger are as much bent
 as when a person is awake, which I
 say is quite otherways, and though D
 P. can demonstrat *Bellini's* Proposi-
 tion, that the Nerves are always in
 their Natural state full of that Liquor
 which we call Animal Spirits, yet this
 is nothing to the Purpose; for the
 Dissertator speaks only of an Universal
 Relaxation and unbending of the Fi-
 bres or Canals that contain them. As
 to the second, The Author of the Dis-
 course is very indifferent whether any
 body has explained sleep his way be-
 fore him or not, and did not think it
 worth while to give it out for his own,
 tho he never so much as took the hint
 from another, yet the disingenuous
 assert-

asserting of his stealing it from *Willis* and *Des Cartes* is remarkable. *Willis's* Doctrine of sleep is set down by D. P. in order to be confuted, and so far unlike that of the Dissertator's, that they do not in the least agree together. He tells us himself, that *Willis* did impute sleep to a retiring of the Spirits to the Brain, and waking to the rushing out of them from it, but that there was no respite given to these which proceeded from the *Cerebellum* that were continually kept at work for performing the necessary Motions of the Breast, Heart, and other vital Functions. This is the sum of Dr. *Willis's* Doctrine, which I think I need not be at pains to show different from the Dissertator's; nor that of Mr. *Des Cartes* either, who in his Treatise *De Homine*, giving the Reason of Sleep, speaks of the Spirits distending the Ventricles of the Brain, when one is awake, but that is quite as remote from the Opinion of my Friend as the other. But say the Answerers, Tho it were his own, where is the use of it in Physick? Is the practice

practice of Medicine improved by it,
 or are there found out by the help of
 this Invention about Sleep, any better
 Remedies in curing Lethargies, Apo-
 plexies, and such like Diseases, than
 what were known to D. P. and o-
 thers before. I confess in short, There
 are none, nor is it of any use in Cur-
 ing Diseases ; but I hope the Disserta-
 tor may give his Opinion in a matter
 of Philosophy as well as another, and
 that D. P. has not the only Title to
 to talk of such things. And if ever
 the Author of the Discourse did enter-
 tain his Friends with his Notion of
 Sleep, it has been by the same chance
 he has discoursed of any other part of
 the Mechanical Philosophy, which it
 seems he must not do without incur-
 ring the Censure of being a designing
 Man, that intends to get himself Re-
 putation and a Name of Learning,
 which does so much offend D. P. and
 his Club. The Excuse made after-
 wards for D. P.'s maiming entirely
Bellini's Doctrine of the causes of Le-
 thargick Diseases, and the Caution he
 gives

gives us not to prescribe Cephalicks and Volatile Salts, in these cases is not worth answering any other way, than by desiring any that have a mind to compare the two Papers together.

The Answer to the Examination of D. P.'s Dissertation *de Curat. febrium quæ per evacuationes instituitur*, is so pitiful and disingenuous, that were it not the ignorant might conclude the Dissertator in the wrong, if quite past over, I should have altogether neglected to make any Reply, and shall in very few words explain the whole Affair. In Fevers, says D. P. if they are to be cured by Evacuations, that one is to be chosen which is most plentiful, and consequently will soonest carry off the Disease. Now Sweating being at least double of all the sensible Evacuations, the insensible Evacuation, made by it, will sooner and more probably cure the Fever than any of the sensible ones can do, and therefore prefers Sweating to all other. He could not miss of seeing an obstacle in his way

y, to wit, that tho' what *Sanctorius*
 be true, yet the obstructing matter
 occasions the Fever might be so
 acid and gross, that it could not pass
 through the small Glandules of the
 in; and therefore makes a long
 course to prove that all Humors
 the Body may pass through all
 of Glandules, provided the
 humors be sufficiently attenua-
 or the Glandules sufficiently
 ed, which the Dissertator does
 Dispute; only, says he, the questi-
 is, if in an Acute Disease, such a one
 requires the most speedy Assistance
 the Physician, the Patient may not
 before any or both of these do
 open: And therefore most justly
 sers the quick and sudden Ejecti-
 of the Morbifick matter by the
 ent and Spungy Glands of the Sto-
 ch, Panceras, Intestines, Liver,
 by Vomiting and Purging. D. P.
 most ridiculously obviated this, by
 ing of a certain *medicamentum uti-*
 he knew no more of, then he did
 the *Aurum Potabile*, that would
 mediately Digest the obstructing
 Hu-

Humors and make them perspirable. This, says the Dissertator, had done well if he had told what that powerful Medicine was, and untill he did that, the whole Dissertation about the Cure of Fevers was Inconsistent and Nonsense; so the Dissertator does not ask D. P. if he can make a Man sweat; he only ask's him what that Chimerical Medicine of his may be, that will sooner set the viscid obstructing Humor through the small & invisible Glandules of the Skin, than it can be done through the open Glandules above mentioned by *Emeticks*; which D. P. indeed thinks necessary, as he tells us, but without any reason assigned for it, and which he has very bluntly and without the least Cohesione rack't to the end of a Paragraph in this new Edition of his Works, not one word of Vomiting being to be met with in the first Impression of that Dissertation.

In answer to this part of the Discourse, I must not pass over the Malicious and Ignorant Remark made of the Authors irreligious swearing against

who that sp

they call it, if *Jupiter* himself (by whom they say the Answerers, he means the true and supreme God) should promise to cure Fevers without Evacuation, he would not believe him. But who told them he meant any thing else by *Jupiter*, but one of the fabulous Dieties or Deified Heroes whereof he is one, and whom no good Author even among the *Pagans*, speaking seriously ever took in another sense; and I do think the Decency of the Expression sufficiently justified by the Authority of *Virgil*, from whom it was borrowed, who in the beginning of the *Fifth Aeneid*, makes *Palinurus* say to *Aeneas*.

*Magnanime Aenea non si mihi Jupiter auctor
Spondeat, hoc sperem Italiam contingere coelo.*

Now if *Virgil* meant the Supreme being by *Jupiter*, he makes him guilty of the same bold impiety he accuses the Dissertator of, which I am sure is the first time ever that Grave, judicious and witty Poet was reproached with. But supposing he had been pompously inclined himself, it was against all Rules of Decency to make that speech be spoken by *Palinurus*,

to a Hero, whose chief and shining Character is Piety, and whom with in a few lines he calls *Pius Æneas*. But in this remark, there is not only the Malice and Ignorance, but the folly of the Answerers to be noticed who ought to have considered how far their Patron lay open to such Accusations; for Example, it is certain, that nothing under the Supreme being made the Earth, and yet that great work of the Almighty is ridiculed by him in his Celebrated Epigram on the *Dutch*, wherein he makes the building of their Dykes and Fences to keep them from drowning a far greater work than making of the Earth, which is not only the height of Impiety but of Nonsense, and quibbling on a dream of *Lucretius*, and the other Epicurean Philosophers,

But to go on, they ask the Dissertator if he never has seen Hæctick Fevers cured by the *Jesuit's* bark and *Antihæcticum Poterii*? And he frankly confesses he never did; these Medicines being meerly palliative, that only abate the Colliquations for a time, which never fail to return with greater

greater violence, if other means be
 not also used, especially Vomiting,
 which he looks on as the most suc-
 cessful, or rather only cure of these
 Hectick Diseases if timeously Admi-
 nistred.

I can find nothing else worth noti-
 cing in this short Answer, (which
 had been much shorter, or rather none
 at all if it had not been swell'd with
 scurrilous Language, impudent Asser-
 tions without any proof, and a great
 many modest Encomiums the Hero
 gives himself) except some further
 Accusations against the Author of the
 Discourse. The first is, That he has
 furiously attack't the learned Author,
 as they call him, of the *New Theory of*
Fevers : If they had added that it
 was without any Cause or Provocation
 given, they might have had some
 shew of Reason for the injury done to
 their Patron's Pensionary and *Stupen-*
duously fulsom Flatter. But that they
 know was false ; on the Contrary,
 they set down the very Compliment
 the Theorist is pleased to bestow on
 him, he takes to be the Author of the

Discourse, (but without telling it was the Theorists, for there lay the cunning) and which I think but too modestly returned by one who never had to do with that Fellow, or ever the least Intention to do him harm and I think it hard, that every Man who returns an Injury scarcely any way than by Vindicating himself from it, should be accused of Knight Errantry. What he said of their learned Theorist, was too plain to need any proof, he told his Work was written in a Barbarous perplex't stile, and to prove this were to transcribe that well pen'd peice. I shall give one instance at random Page 23. " We want (says he) a compleat System of Mechanick Philosophy. i. e. an account of all the visible effects of Nature upon Geometrick Principles, for it seems it is not Systems us they are the Explanation of all the Effects of Nature from the same principles, which are so justly ridiculed, but Systems as they are ungeometrical. It is true indeed, all the great, visible constant, and uniform Phenomena of Nature, have been attempted

attempted by the eminent Mathema-
 ticians of this and the last Age, but
 not accounted for, from rigorous Geo-
 metry by that stupendiously great
 Man *Mr. Newton quem secula nulla*
tacebunt, &c. Now, I'll lay the
 Reader a wager he shall Read this pas-
 sage at least six times over before he
 shall know what to make of it, tho' it
 be a very plain thing he means; and
 these fine words *Geometrick, Stupen-*
dously, &c. are most smooth and mu-
 lish to the Ear, no doubt, and good
English. As for his stealing, what is
 true in his Book concerning Fevers
 from *Borelli* and *Bellini*, that can on-
 ly be made out to these who have a
 mind to compare all together, being
 cannot be at the Drudgery of Tran-
 scribing. However, this Civil Writer
 seems is much afraid the Author
 of the Discourse should be at a loss
 how to bestow his time, and there-
 fore in a Letter to his Patron, carves
 out work for him, to wit, proposes
 the Solution of some Problems which
 without doubt he knowes to be very
 useful in the practice of Medicine. I
 don't know if my Friend will thank

him for his Kindness, but I'm sure he should deserve all the bad Names in the Answer, if he accepted a Challenge from such a hand, or should ever think of entering the Lists with one that knowes so little either of Medecine or good Manners.

The next Charge is, That the Dissertator can neither write nor speak good *English*, but this like the rest without any proof. I'd only fain ask these little Fellows, what occasions they have had beyond these of the Dissertator, to know the *English* Tongue, or if they think their Capacity of learning Languages so far beyond his, which if I should call at least equal to any of theirs, I think I make my Friend but a very indifferent Compliment ; but where lyes the beauty of the Stile of their Scurrilous Paper except they place it in the little frequent Expostulations of. *But why but pray ?* and such little quaint Expressions that sparkle so much through this elaborat Answer, and serve only to shew the Authors of it to be mere Apes of that Language whereof they pretend to be so nice Judges.

But now they come to the last Paragraph and accuse the Dissertator for being so quarrellsome, that he cannot agree with himself, because as the Answerers affirm, he Confesses Mathematicks are usefull in Medecine, tho of no use in curing Diseases. This is false and disingenuous, for in the last Paragraph of the Examinatory Discourse, he only says, that he doth not absolutly undervalue the study of Mathematical Learning in that of the Medicine, the words are, *Interea non Englishæ ita intelligi velim quasi Mathematicas Disciplinas in Studio Medicine Floccifacerem*: Neither doth he that of at least Languages, of Natural History and other Ornamental Studies, which do Cornot only recomend a Man as a Physician but as a Divine or a Lawyer.

To Conclude, Dr. J. J. the pretended Answerer, tells us, he had the good Fortune to be taught the Elements of Medicine by D. P. at Leyden and to defend several of the Dissertations there, and that the Learned Men were sufficiently satisfied with the Answers made to their Objections; But which must be what is meant in the

beginning by these Dissertations standing the Test of all Europe, but everyone knows, that hath been at that University, what small regard is had to these School Exerc. ses, & that they are so far from being a Trial of Truth that seldom any Man of Learning takes notice what is said on such occasions, or ever is present on any other account, then that of Complementing the *Preses* of the Dispute or the Defender. Then he tells us of a great many Obligations he owed to D. P. which I am not much concerned about: Only they must be of extraordinary value, otherwise he needs not trouble himself to make any further requital, than the having allowed his Master to add the Two Letters of his Name, to a pitiful disingenuous Paper and exposing himself to the Censure of the World in Fathering the Brains of another, and talking of *Opticks*, *Astronomy*, the *Catenaria*, *Method of Fluxions*, &c. which all of his acquaintance know him to be as much a stranger to, as I am sure the true Answerers are to the knowledge of *Medicine* or the Art of curing *Diseases*.